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Marketing Reports Division 18 R A 5 7 425 Wilson Building Dallas 1, Texas

Approximate Time 5 Min. January 15, 1945
No. 3

1. MUSIC: UP AND UNDER

2. LNNOUNCER:	Radio StationpresentsFOOD FRONT
	HE.DLINESa behind-the-scene story of how our food
	moves from farms to battle linesfrom ships to
	Allied supply depotsfrom grocery shelves to civili
	tables hereready to take you backstage of
	the American food dramais
	of the War Food 44dministration.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- 5. DIST. REP:: Thanks, Mr. ____. You know, we should have opened today's program with a fiddle bond playing 'Tho Broke the Lock on the Men House Door?".
- 4. ANHOUNCLR: Why?
- 5. DIST. FEP: It would have been an appropriate theme song...since we're going to discuss our chicken supply.
- o. LIL OUNCER: How is the supply?
- 7. DIST. REP: Short of demand.
- 8. .N. OUNCER: Don't tell me we may have to dispense with that good old American tradition of chicken every Sunday!
- 9. DIST. MTP: We may. In fact...some parts of the country have already. So few chickens have been coming to market that the War Food Administration had to issue a set aside order reserving all the chickens marketed in certain heavy poultry producing areas for purchase by the armed forces.

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- 10. ANNOUNCER: We want our fighters to have all the chicken they

 meeed,..but how do you account for the development

 of this tight poultry meat situation?
- 11. DIST. REP: I believe these four reasons will explain it. First, poultry men raised 20 percent less chickens in 1944 than in 1945...Second, the rate of culling during November was lighter than in Movember 1945...Third, reduced red-meat supplies and rationing of more meats plus higher incomes have increased civilian demand for chicken...Fourth, military and wartime requirements have increased.
- 12. ANNOUNCER: So those are the factors involved! Now let's examine each one of them individually. To begin with...we raised 20 percent less chickens in 1944 than in 1943. Why?
- 13. DIST. REP: Food shortages...and the lack of transportation to distribute what supplies there were available... probably account for some of the reduction. Of course... the unfavorable egg situation last year likely influenced the reduction, too.
- 14. ANDOUNCER: I thought we produced a bumper feed crop in 1944.
- 15. DIST. REP: We did...but not in 1943...and that was the crop poultrymen had to depend upon to feed their 1944 flocks.
- 16. ANNOUNCER: Well...that explains the reduction. Now what's behithe decline in the culling rate?

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- 17. DIST. REP: That may be attributed to the larger-than-usual increase for recent years in the farm egg price during November...reflected in the improvement of the egg-food price ratio.
- 18. ANNOUNCER: The whyfores of the increased civilian demand for chicken are obvious enough...more buying power plus less beef and pork. But why have the armed forces suddenly stopped up their purchase rate?
- 19. DIST. REP: To send chick on to hospitals and rest centers whose populations must necessarily increase as we progress in the war.
- 20.ANKOUNCER: Woll...wo can cortainly understand that reason...

 because we all know that chicken is the choice meat

 for a sick person's dict.
- 21. DIST. REP: Then, men in the front lines and in camps here at home get plenty of chicken too...for the army considers chicken a "morale" food...However... these military requirements haven't been sudden in their rise. They increased gradually and at the same time the chicken supply decreased.
- 22. ALTOUNCER: So that's why the war Food Administration found it necessary to issue the chicken set-aside order!
- 23. DICT. REP: Exactly...We had to give the Quartermaster Corps buyers first bid on all the chickens coming to market in the heavy poultry producing areas to assure our fighters of anough chicken.

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- 24. ANNOUNCER: Dut doesn't the Quartermaster Corps have a reserve stock of chicken?
- 25. DIST. REP: Yes, but it moved much of this chicken out of cold storage during the season when few chickens were coming to market. In fact...so few chickens came to market last summer and fall that the army drew 110 million pounds out of its reserve.
- 26. ANYOUNCER: and now this amount must be purchased to replace the used reserve stocks.... s well as current needs.
- 27. DIST. REP: That's right. They army simply couldn't fill its needs by purchase in the open market...so the Quartermaster Corps provailed upon MFA to issue the chicken set-aside order.
- 28. ANNOUNCER: I understand that this order applies only to the

 Delaware-Maryland-Virginia Feninsula...the Shenandon

 Valley...and parts of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri

 and Georgia. Why is that?
- 29. DIST. MEP: Because poultry producers...who raise the kind of chicken particularly suitable for shipping...are concentrated in these areas...and are nearest to the big Quartermaster Depots and shipping points that are now short of enough chicken to meet their needs.

 The order will be extended to other areas if needssary.

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- 50. ANNOUNCER: Under the provisions of the order...producers and processors in these areas can sell chicken only to the army...am I right?
- 31. DIST. REP: You containly tre. Consumers in areas affected by the chicken set-aside order will not be able to buy any chicken...except birds which don't meet army specifications.
- 52. .MANOUNCER: What about the big consuming centers...which have always depended upon these heavy poultry producing areas for their supplies?
- 53. DIST. REP: If they got any chicken...they'll have to buy it clsewhere.
- 34. ANNOUNCER: Then those are as which produce only enough chicken to satisfy the local demand...will find some of their chicken going to those big consuming centers.

 That means less chicken in our local markets.
- 35. DIST. REP: That's right. A 20 percent cut in poultry production in 1944... light rate of culling last fall...

 reduced rud-mout supplies plus higher incomes...

 and biggor military nouds... all contribute to the tight poultry mout situation. However. when we can't buy that chicken for sunday's dinner, we'll remember that Chicken Is for Fightors First!
- 36. ANNOUNCER: Thank you, Mr. _____. and for next week what have so billed?

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to help to help them.

